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Message Text

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15
ORIGIN AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 CU-04 RSC-01 VO-03 /030 R

DRAFTED BY AF/W:HKWALKER:LB
APPROVED BY AF/W - MR. SHERWOOD
---------- 128775
R 140013Z DEC 73
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CGEN, LI
SUBJECT: GERALD DUKULY
REF: MONROVIA 6845

1. GERALD DUKULY ARRESTED 7 DECEMBER AND CHARGED WITH 1ST DEGREE BANK ROBBERY RE CRIME COMMITTED 6 DECEMBER. SUBSEQUENTLY ATTEMPTED ESCAPE, AND THAT ADDED TO CHARGES, ALONG WITH ATTEMPTED BANK ROBBERY RE INCIDENT IN AUGUST 1972 IN WHICH BANK OFFICIAL SHOT AND WOUNDED. HE PRESENTLY UNDER INVESTIGATION RE OTHER SUSPECTED CHARGES INVOLVING ROBBERY. BAIL SET AT 12,000 DOLLARS. WILL APPEAR FOR ARRAIGNMENT IN BRIDGEPORT SUPERIOR COURT PROBABLY IN TWO WEEKS.

2. LIBERIAN CONSULATE GENERAL IN NEW YORK HAS INFORMED GOL OF CASE. GERALD'S ATTORNEY RICHARD MEEHAN, WHO REPRESENTED HIM LAST YEAR RE MINOR OFFENSES WHICH DISMISSED ON ASSUMPTION GERALD WOULD RETUR TO LIBERIA, TELEPHONED GERALD'S FATHER 12 DECEMBER BUT TELEPHONE CONNECTION POOR AND MEEHAN UNCERTAIN IF ELDER DUKULY WILL PAY BAIL.

3. MEEHAN POINTED OUT THAT UNDER CONNECTICUT STATE LAW, FIRST DEGREE BANK ROBBERY CHARGE CARRIES MANDATORY 5 YEAR MINIMUM SENTENCE AND 20 YEAR PERMISSABLE MAXIMUM.
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SENTENCE CANNOT BE SUSPENDED. BANK ROBBERY IS ALSO

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FEDERAL OFFENSE, AND EFFORTS MAY OCCUR TO TRANSFER CASE
TO FEDERAL JURISDICTION. BRIDGEPORT POLICE SAY
EVIDENCE APPEARS CONCLUSIVE -- I.E., GERALD' PICTURE
IN BANK AT TIME OF ROBBERY, POLICE FOUND IN HIS
POSSESSION ALMOST 10,000 DOLLARS IN CURRENCY AND
TRAVELERS CHECKS WHICH CAN BE TRACED TO BANK. RUSH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 DEC 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: collinp0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE244306
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: HKWALKER:LB
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731224/aaaaarjo.tel
Line Count: 67
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: MONROVIA 6845
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: collinp0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10-Jan-2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <08 MAR 2002 by collinp0>
Review Markings:

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EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GERALD DUKULY
TAGS: CGEN, LI
To: MONROVIA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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